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alignment with other Communist forces of Europe, and in a moment of such confusion and unrest, so that the plans of the American interventionists cannot be carried out. The situation in Italy, and especially in France, will become increasingly unstable, and this will be to the advantage of the East German Communist Republic, because only Ulbricht, under the auspices of the Kremlin, can offer the French a guarantee against the renaissance of a German Nazi-dominated Europe. Communists believe it will be possible to combine a limited East German rearmament with a popular-front policy in Paris.

3. Within the party, the constant purge of unreliable elements is continuing. Gerhart Eisler is a dead man, who sits in the Information Ministry under strict control, not even having the right to appoint his own stenographers. But that is the case for all other nineteen-forty-fivers. Jakob Walcher, a member of the German Communist Party (KPD) Central Committee in the early twenties, who returned to Berlin after a six-year sojourn in the United States as an anti-fascist refugee, has been expelled from the party, and in consequence forced to leave his apartment on his 65th birthday, an incident which signals the continuing strict measures against Western Communists. Georg Dertinger is under constant supervision, and is suspected of wanting to flee to the West Zone, while Otto Grotewohl is also regarded as not completely reliable. The Communist cadres consider this purge as inevitable, because too great concessions to the bourgeois parties in East Germany were made originally, and it is now high time to put a stop to exaggerated tolerance towards non-Socialist elements.
4. In 1946, half of the deputies in the Landtage still belonged to the Liberal and Christian Democrats (LDP and CDU) and various non-party peasant organizations. The administration was, until recently, still composed of too many of the old civil servants. Thus, in Communist parlance, East Germany was a Socialist country with a bourgeois administration. Meanwhile, a new Socialist civil service has been trained in the Walter Ulbricht Academy in Forst Zinna, and many new people will take the places of the purged, a process facilitated by the administrative re-organization of the states (Länder) into districts (Bezirke) of which Berlin will become the fifteenth.
5. Therefore, from the Communist vantage point, the régime is considered as quite tolerable. There are no mass arrests going on as in the early years of the occupation; concentration camps exist, but they represent only a modern form of the forced labor usual for criminals in German jails. There is much satisfaction with the improvement in living standards, the greater range of goods offered, and the somewhat easier work tempo. A great number of special privileges are given to the working intellectuals, to labor heroes and master peasants, and the prizes or orders these persons get are accompanied by material, cultural, and educational privileges. The great number of vacation homes for these élite and their children were mentioned most approvingly, and the division of the population into followers of the régime, enjoying these privileges, and the others, the loafers and idlers, has been very well adapted to German mentality. A point of pride is the new housing projects in East Berlin, especially the Stalinallee. All new apartments will be reserved for the élite, and this is an attractive form of social pressure.
6. Summing up, the smug self-satisfaction of Communists in contrast to former years, is quite surprising to observers. These Communists take the present situation as satisfactorily settled, and look forward to a later unification with West Germany by force, a process which will, to their insincere regret, bring about the forceful elimination of a great deal of the SPD, which has unfortunately let itself be dragged into a deadly hostility to the Communists and the Soviet Union, and will have to pay a high price for this unreasonable attitude. The Germans will be supported by their Communist allies in East Europe, and Germans and Poles will fight side by side against the Neo-Nazis.

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